

Application No. 10/689,932  
Attorney Docket No. AOL0439  
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### LISTING OF CLAIMS

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

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### CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A system for providing real-time communication over a global network in a session between two or more users, each of said two or more users using a device communicatively coupled to the global network, said system comprising:

10 a client messaging application which runs on each of said the users' devices, said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each of said user's device screens, said user interface comprising:

a message entry window for a the user to enter data;

15 a communication window for displaying messages entered in a said session; and

~~means~~ a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, each of said one or more application agents ~~which~~ being associated to an external application;

20 wherein when any of said one or more application agents is activated, the said external application represented by said one or more activated application agents is displayed on said user device screens in conjunction with ~~runs on top of the~~ said client messaging application such that said two or more all users in said session can instantly use the said external application represented by said activated application agent without leaving said session.

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2. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said external application is either a local application in any of said the user's devices or a third party service on the global network.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 2, wherein said third party service on the  
5 global network is any of:

an instant translation service;

a speech synthesis service;

an automatic publishing service;

a picture sharing service;

10 a map sharing service;

a quote service; and

a Web search engine.

4. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said activated application agent addresses ~~other~~ said external applications on an ~~the~~ other side  
15 of said session via a ~~the~~ user's message protocol.

5. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ data transferred via ~~the~~ said user's message protocol for addressing ~~other~~ said external applications on ~~the~~ said other side of said session is a sequence of characters that represents binary data.

20 6. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said ~~means~~ selection window for accessing one or more application agents further comprises:

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one or more ~~means for displaying a plurality of~~ distinct visual cues, each of which being representative of one of said application agents; and

said ~~means for associating one or more of said distinct~~ visual cues shown in association with ~~to a~~ contact in ~~the a user's~~ contact list of a user, said association being based on the said user's prior use ~~or/and use frequency, with said contact, of the said~~ application agents with said contact ~~represented by said~~ visual cues.

7. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 6, wherein whenever said contact joins said session, ~~the said~~ application agents represented by said one or more ~~associated distinct~~ visual cues associated with said contact ~~is are~~ automatically activated.

8. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 6, wherein any of said application agents can be registered as a contact in said contact ~~the user's list of said user contacts to create registered application agents.~~

9. (Original) The system of Claim 8, wherein at least one of said registered application agents is associated to an interactive service.

10. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 9, wherein one or more of said ~~any other~~ registered application agents can be run in conjunction with said interactive service associated with said at least one ~~stacked on said~~ registered application agent ~~associated to the interactive service.~~

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said selection window displays any of:

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a list of unregistered application agents, each of said unregistered application agents ~~which being available to be stacked on~~ registered with said client messaging application; and

5 a list of registered application agents, each of said registered application agents being, ~~each of which being already stacked on said client messaging application and is~~ immediately available to be activated by a ~~the~~ user.

13. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein the said user can register said unregistered an application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said unregistered application agent from said list of  
10 unregistered application agents to said list of registered application agents.

14. (Original) The system of Claim 13, wherein said symbol is an icon or a title.

15 15. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said user can unregister a registered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said registered application agent from said list of registered application agents to said list of unregistered application agents.

16. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein the said user can register an unregistered application agent by applying one or more mouse-clicking commands.

20 17. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein the said user can activate a registered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said registered application agent from said selection window to said communication window.

18. (Original) The system of Claim 17, wherein said symbol is an icon or a title.

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19. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said user can activate a registered application agent by applying one or more mouse-clicking commands.

20. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein ~~the~~ said user can  
5 activate a registered application agent from a local application ~~represented by~~  
~~registered application agent~~.

21. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 13, further comprising:

means for associating an alias of said symbol to a contact in ~~the~~ said  
user's contact list, said association ~~being based on the~~ said user's prior use  
10 ~~or/and use frequency~~, with said contact, of said ~~the~~ application agent represented  
by said symbol.

22. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 12, wherein said list of  
unregistered application agents is automatically updated ~~without need of~~  
~~changing by~~ said client messaging application.

15 23. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

wherein a user invites ~~means for inviting~~ another user to activate one of  
said application agents in ~~the~~ said session.

24. (Currently amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein said user interface  
further comprises:

20 a symbol for selection by a user to initiate ~~ing~~ synchronous sharing of a  
third party service represented by an activated application agent.

25. (Currently amended) A method for incorporating external resources into an  
instant messaging session supported by an instant messaging system, said

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instant messaging system comprising a client messaging application which runs on ~~a number of~~ devices communicatively coupled to the Internet, comprising the steps of:

5 said client messaging application providing a user interface displayed on each device's screen from which a the user[s] communicate[s] with ~~each~~ other users, said user interface comprising a message entry window for said ~~the~~ user to enter data, a communication window for displaying messages entered in said instant messaging a session, and a selection window for accessing one or more application agents, each of said application agents being associated to an  
10 external application, the method further comprising the steps of:

activating a registered application agent from a list of registered application agents, wherein each of said registered application agents is ~~stacked on said client messaging application and~~ is instantly available to be activated by ~~the~~ said user; and

15 sharing ~~the~~ said external application to which said activated application agent is associated with other users in said instant messaging session.

26. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 25, wherein said external application is either a local application in ~~the user's~~ any of said devices communicatively coupled to the Internet or a third party service on the Internet.

20 27. (Original) The method of Claim 26, wherein said third party service on the Internet is any of:

an instant translation service;

a speech synthesis service;

an automatic publishing service;

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a picture sharing service;

a map sharing service;

a quote service; and

a Web search engine.

- 5 28. (Original) The method of Claim 25, wherein at least one of said registered application agents is associated to an interactive service.

29. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [24] [25], further comprising the steps of:

10 registering an unregistered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said unregistered application agent from a list of unregistered application agents to said list of registered application agents, wherein each of said unregistered application agents is available to be ~~stacked on~~ registered with said client messaging application; and

15 unregistering a registered application agent by dragging a symbol representative of said registered application agent from said list of registered application agents to said list of unregistered application agents.

30. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 25 further comprising the steps of:

registering an unregistered application agent by applying a number of mouse-clicking commands; and

20 unregistering a registered application agent by applying a number of mouse-clicking commands.

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31. (Currently amended) The method of Claim [24] [25], further comprising the step of:

5 associating one or more ~~of~~ visual cues to a contact in a ~~the user's~~ contact list of a user; each of said one or more visual cues representing one of said registered application agents, said association being based on the said user's prior use ~~or/and~~ use frequency, with said contact, of said registered the application agents ~~represented by said visual cues~~.

32. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 31, further comprising the step of:

10 automatically activating said registered the application agents represented by said associated visual cues whenever said contact joins said instant messaging session.

33. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 31, wherein said contact can be any of:

15 a screen name representing a human contact;

a name or a visual cue representing an interactive service; and

a name or a visual cue representing one of said registered application agents.